

40 percent of these contracts were awarded to businesses in the District of Columbia, where the project is located.

Regional Contracting Services began in July 2001 with a \$7,000 investment and has grown significantly, reporting annual sales revenue of \$16 million last year, with a bonding capacity of \$2 million per job, and \$10 million in total. Regional Contracting Services has 60 employees, and has been rated among the top 500 "Fastest Growing Companies in America" by Entrepreneur magazine.

Regional Contracting Services has worked on some of the Washington area's top projects, including the Children's National Medical Center, the Mandarin Hotel, the Pentagon, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Walter Washington Convention Center, the Washington Nationals' Baseball Stadium, and the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority—Brentwood Yard Expansion.

Receiving a contract for the DHS headquarters construction project is a testament to Regional Contracting Services' success and motivation for other D.C. small businesses in competition for a share of the DHS headquarters project. The early success of Regional Contracting Services stands as an example to our local businesses, that in a fair competition, they can win. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring both Regional Contracting Services, LLC, in Washington, D.C., as the 2010 D.C. Small Business of the Year, and its founder, Beverly Thomas.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,826,379,456,286.85.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,187,953,709,993.00 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

#### IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS OF A NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of establishing a National Siblings Day, a day in which we all reflect upon the ways siblings have enriched our lives. We have a Mother's Day to celebrate our mothers, and a Father's Day to celebrate our fathers. Establishing a Siblings Day would allow us an opportunity to celebrate and honor our siblings and would give every family member a day to be celebrated.

Claudia Ewart is a constituent of mine in New York. She has worked tirelessly over the

past several years to make April 10th the official day we reflect upon the importance of our siblings.

April 10th would mark the birthday of Ms. Ewart's sister, Lisette, who died tragically in an accident that also took the life of her father in 1972. Lisette was only 19 years old. Just 14 years later, in 1986, Ms. Ewart's older brother, Alan, died in an accident in his home at the young age of 36.

Siblings significantly affect our lives and shape who we are. Siblings are a major part of our family, and often when our parents are gone our siblings are the only family we have left. And sometimes we lose our siblings at an early age, as with Ms. Ewart's tragic experience. A National Siblings Day would help us honor and celebrate siblings and aid us in remembering the siblings that we have lost.

I applaud Ms. Ewart's hard work over the past 14 years to create a National Siblings Day, and with it a loving tribute to her deceased siblings. Her dedicated efforts are inspirational. Since 1998, 33 governors have issued gubernatorial proclamations in their states for Siblings Day: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, IL, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, WA, WI and WY. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of siblings by adding their support to Ms. Ewart's endeavors, and to the goals of a National Siblings Day.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DORIS MARIE THOMPSON

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I commemorate the life and service of Doris Marie Thompson, a tireless victims' rights advocate from San Antonio, Texas, who passed away on March 18, 2010.

Doris began her life of service to the cause of victims' rights following the murder of her 26-year-old daughter, J'Anna Marie Tebbs. Over the course of two decades, Doris spent countless hours counseling fellow parents and using her own tragedy to discourage other violent crimes.

In 1999, Doris worked with Raven Kazen Hauge to establish the first Victim Services Division in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The division allows a victim's family and friends to be notified of the offender's parole hearings and to directly petition parole board members. Doris was also heavily involved with a branch of the division known as the Victim Impact Panel. There, she would retell the story of her daughter's murder to groups of probationers in hopes that hearing it would dissuade them from committing violent crimes.

Doris Marie Thompson dedicated her life to pursuing justice and care for victims. These are the values that the Victims' Rights Caucus seeks to emulate and celebrate. I thank Doris for her work and honor her life as a shining example of tireless advocacy for victims.

IN HONOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE V. GEORGE CAREY

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the career of The Honorable State Representative V. George Carey. A member of Delaware's House of Representatives for the past 26 years and president of Carey Farms, Inc., Representative Carey is a man who has given much to his community and his state, but most of all, has served his constituents of the 36th District with honor and humility. Representative Carey is retiring after an accomplished and unique career in the General Assembly, and his presence in the State House will be greatly missed.

George was elected in 1984 to the State House of Representatives; the same year I was first elected Governor of the State of Delaware. I had the privilege of working with George for eight years while I was in Dover, and have fond memories of that time. George will leave behind an indelible legacy in the General Assembly for his efforts with land conservation, tax-ditch reform, and most of all, an outstanding commitment to the constituents he represented.

As one of only two active farmers serving in the General Assembly, George has built a reputation in the State House as an authority on agricultural issues, and has used that expertise to be a positive force on behalf of farmers throughout Delaware. He has been a member of the Agriculture Committee for more than two decades, and his retirement will leave a void of leadership and knowledge that will be extremely difficult to fill. Representative Carey helped create the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program, noted to be among the most successful initiatives of its kind in the nation. His leadership with the program extended beyond the halls of the General Assembly, when he became one of the first farmers in the state to enter his farmland into the program. Last year, George was given the Delaware Association of Conservation Districts' Legislative Award for his career service and devotion to conservation efforts. In addition to land conservation, George was instrumental in reforming Delaware's tax-ditch system. He served on the Tax Ditch Right-of-Way Task Force, and sponsored House Bill 452, which addressed and corrected many issues that had resulted from a confusing and archaic system.

Throughout the past two and half decades as the Representative for the 36th District, George has worked diligently as a delegate for his constituents, ensuring that they have a voice in the General Assembly. He has pushed for reform when needed, as shown by his efforts to develop a solution for the tax-ditch issue. And when common sense calls for conservation, he has tirelessly advocated for such measures. As a long-time member of the Joint Bond Bill Committee, he has been instrumental in improving and enhancing the community he serves. George has secured funding to bring a variety of projects to his district, such as the Milford and Milton Riverwalks, the Milford Library, the Greater Milford Boys & Girls Club, and the Milton Museum.

State Representative V. George Carey has had an exemplary career of public service. I am proud to have served with him for the eight years that I did, and relish this opportunity to honor him on the occasion of his retirement. He was steadfast in his mission to champion the wellbeing of his district, and will be remembered for his contributions to Sussex County, and the State of Delaware.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE ALYSSA CARILLI AS THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michelle Alyssa Carilli, the recipient of the National Volunteer Fire Council's Junior Firefighter of the Year Award. Michelle is currently a senior at Coventry High School, which is located in Coventry, Connecticut.

Each year the National Volunteer Fire Council conducts a national search to honor a junior firefighter who has gone above and beyond the normal call of duty in his or her commitment to the fire and emergency services. Michelle's outstanding contributions to the Coventry Volunteer Fire Association truly embody what it means to be a junior firefighter. Michelle's family is no stranger to public service, with her father serving as chief of the Coventry Volunteer Fire Department, alongside numerous other relatives.

For almost four years, Michelle has dedicated herself to public service in her community. During that time, she raised almost \$2,000 so that the Coventry Fire Department could sponsor the Coventry Special Olympics, organized the Volunteer for Life program for her fellow high school students to become first aid certified and led a recruitment campaign to get more students involved with the department which resulted in many of their parents becoming volunteer firefighters and EMTs. She holds the rank of Junior Firefighter Captain and was the first junior firefighter to be named the Coventry Volunteer Fire Association's Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year.

Michelle's performance as a Junior Firefighter is mirrored by her success as a scholar and an athlete. She is an honor roll student at Coventry High School and a captain of the school's State Champion volleyball team. She is also a Varsity basketball player and track athlete.

Madam Speaker, public safety in our communities is dependent on outstanding volunteers like Michelle Carilli. Her selfless service to her town, her department, and her school makes her truly deserving of the distinction of Junior Firefighter of the Year. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing Michelle's contributions and celebrating her award.

REVEREND DR. HENRY L. FULLER, JR. AND MARILYN W. FULLER

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Dr. Henry L. Fuller, Jr. and his wife Marilyn W. Fuller as they celebrate 12 years leading the congregation of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. A dinner was held on Saturday, April 10 to honor the occasion.

Pastor Fuller received his Bachelor's degree from the United Bible Institute of the United Theological Seminary—Flint Branch. He received an honorary doctorate from United Bible Institute of the United Theological Seminary in Monroe Louisiana. He preached his first sermon on December 12, 1971 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. He was inspired to organize a Mission in Holly, Michigan in 1973. The Mission became Faith Baptist Church. Between the years 1983 to 1998, Pastor Fuller headed the Calvary Missionary Baptist Church in Muncie Indiana.

On April 18, 1998, Pastor Fuller returned to his roots and became the Pastor at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. In addition to leading the congregation, Pastor Fuller has held several positions with the church and in the community. He has served as president of the Northeastern District Sunday School and BTU Congress of Christian Education of the Northeastern District Missionary Baptist Association in Muncie; president of Indiana Consolidated Congress of Christian Education of the Indiana Consolidated State Convention; served on the Finance Board of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; was a writer with the Publishing Board Sunday School and BTU Literature National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; as an instructor at the Central Baptist Theological Seminary of Indiana; and served as moderator of the Great Lakes Baptist District Association 2000–2007.

Marilyn W. Fuller has worked by her husband's side in the Flint community and at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. A retired registered nurse specializing in substance abuse and addictions counseling, Mrs. Fuller currently serves on the Board of Managers of Hurley Medical Center. She works with the Genesee County focus group for the National Coalition of Pastors' Spouses committed to decreasing HIV/AIDS infection in African American Women. She is active in several ministries at Mt. Calvary and at the Great Lakes District level, the Wolverine State Congress level and the National Baptist Congress level. Pastor and Mrs. Fuller have 4 children and 7 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and honor the work of Reverend Dr. Henry L. Fuller, Jr., and his wife, Marilyn W. Fuller. Their enthusiasm and witness have inspired the Mt. Calvary family. May Our Lord, Jesus Christ, continue to bless our community with their service for many, many more years.

IN HONOR OF MR. RICHARD S. CITRON, FACHE

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the career of Mr. Richard Citron, who is retiring after 42 years of federal service. Mr. Citron has developed a reputation of expertise in delivering state-of-the-art healthcare throughout his 38 years working in Veterans Affairs, and his well-earned retirement will leave a void in the field.

Mr. Citron has served as the Director of the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center since August of 2007. Richard served in the United States Army from 1968 to 1971, and began his career in healthcare by working for a year at a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital in Chu Lai, Vietnam during the war. His career has taken him all over America, including stints as Assistant Director of the University Drive VA Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and terms as Director of both the Jesse Brown VAMC in Chicago, Illinois, and VAMC in Wilmington, Delaware. In addition to his nearly four decades working as a Veterans healthcare professional, Mr. Citron is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives, a defining credential for those in his profession.

As Director of the Philadelphia VAMC, Richard oversaw operations of the medical facilities that serve the sixth largest metropolitan area in the nation, including the city of Philadelphia and surrounding six counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He was responsible for a staff of more than 2,000 dedicated individuals working at the main campus in West Philadelphia and community-based outpatient clinics at Fort Dix, in Gloucester County and Camden, New Jersey, as well as Center City Philadelphia, and Horsham, Pennsylvania. Richard takes particular pride in the advancements made within the Behavioral Health and Women's programs instituted or strengthened during his time as Director at the Philadelphia VAMC.

Having left an indelible legacy in Veterans healthcare, Richard can rest assured that we are indebted to him for his service to our country. I wish him the best in retirement, and thank him for his dedication to assisting those who have sacrificed so much in defense of this great nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2010 VALOR AWARD RECIPIENT IN THE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 13, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of the Virginia State Police. This individual has demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and has been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their